

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MEXICO 02051 081953Z

70

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 COA-02 DLOS-06 AID-20 H-03 EB-11 CEQ-02

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FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 547

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T.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PBOR, MX

SUBJ: SALINITY: US CONGRESS CONSIDERATION OF IMPLEMENTING
LEGISLATION

REF: A. MEXICO 2003; B. TORREY/ZWEIFEL MARCH 7 TELCON

1. MARCH 8 PRESS COMMENT GROWING OUT OF AP ARTICLE ON US CONGRESS' CONSIDERATION OF DESALINATION IMPEMENTING LEGISLATION (REFTEL) LIMITED TO LEAD EDITORIAL IN NOVEDADES. EDITORIAL BEGINS BY NOTING THAT FAVORABLE CONCLUSION IS NOT INEVITABLE, AND THEN GOES ON TO PICK UP THEME OF POSSIBLE CONGRESSIONAL RESISTANCE ALLUDED TO IN AP ARTICLE. NOVEDADES WRITER STATES THAT ISSUE HAS ALWAYS BEEN SUBJECT TO DIVERSE INTERESTS. "IF AGRICULTURALISTS AND CERTAIN POLITICAL SECTORS IN NEIGHBORING COUNTRY INSIST IN OBSTRUCTING THE PATH TO A JUST AND PRACTICAL AGREEMENT THEN WE WILL HAVE ENTERED ANOTHER PHASE OF THE SUBJECT, ONE IN WHICH WE CANNOT REACH A CONCLUSION VIA GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT NEGOTIATIONS, BUT ONLY THROUGH AN AGREEMENT AMONG US POWERS. MEANWHILE MEXICAN FARMERS CONTINUE TO BE HARMED IN A WAY INCOMPATIBLE WITH GOOD NEIGHBORSHIP..."

2. CONTRARY TO OUR EXPECTATION, THERE HAVE BEEN NO MEDIA INQUIRIES CONCERNING AP STORY. EMBASSY PREPARED TO RESPOND TO ANY SUCH QUESTIONS BY STATING THAT CONGRESSIONAL CONSIDERATION
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PAGE 02 MEXICO 02051 081953Z

IS IN VERY EARLY STAGE, AND THAT ALTHOUGHT WE CANNOT PREJUDGE

WHAT THE CONGRESS MIGHT DECIDE, WE ARE REASONABLY OPTIMISTIC
OF A FAVORABLE OUTCOME (REFTELCON).
JOVA

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Message Attributes

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